

App. No. 10/659,919

Remarks

Reconsideration is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1, 8, 15 and 17 are amended. Claims 1-21 remain pending.

I. Claim objections

Claims 15 and 17 are objected to for using the word "it". Claims 15 and 17 have been amended to change "it" to "the personalization unit". Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

II. Claim rejections

Claims 1, 2, 5-9 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US 6,588,673 to Chan et al. (Chan).

In addition, claims 3, 4, 10, 11 and 15-19 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of US 6,778,837 to Bade et al. (Bade).

In addition, claims 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Bade and US 6,014,748 to Tushie et al. (Tushie).

Applicant respectfully traverses each rejection.

A. Claims 1-7

Chan does not teach a system as recited in claim 1, where the system includes a portable personalization machine that includes communications equipment to permit communications with a controlling authority remote from the personalization machine.

The rejection refers to items 130 and 300 in Chan as a portable personalization machine. In Applicant's invention, the portable personalization machine is separate from the local controller. Chan refers to items 130 and 300 as a system that is composed of a PC 132, 310 and personalization equipment 136, 330 (see, for example, column 6, lines 57-62). The system 130, 300 is not equivalent to a portable personalization machine. Further, the personalization equipment 136, 330 of Chan does not include communications equipment to permit communications with a controlling authority remote from the personalization machine. Instead, the personalization equipment 136, 330 of Chan relies upon the PC 132, 310 for communications with the card issuer 110.

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In addition, Chan does not teach a system as recited in claim 1, where the portable personalization machine includes a control unit and where a local controller is interfaceable with the interface of the personalization machine. The rejection suggests that a CPU of a PC is both a control unit and a local controller. However, claim 1 requires that there be both a control unit and a local controller. Chan does not teach both a control unit and a local controller. The PC 132, 310 in Chan cannot be both a control unit and a local controller. Further, there is no indication that the personalization equipment 136, 330 of Chan includes a control unit.

Applicant notes that the Examiner has referred to a keyboard and other data input devices as an input, and a card printer as an output. Applicant traverses. Claim 1 recites an input for inputting an identity document and an output for outputting an identity document. The input and output in claim 1 are not referring to data input devices, but rather an input and an output for the identity documents.

For at least these reasons, claim 1 is patentable over Chan. Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are patentable for that reason alone and need not be separately distinguished at this time. By not separately addressing claims 2-7, Applicant does not concede the propriety of the rejections thereto and reserves the right to submit arguments at a later date specifically addressing the merits of the rejections to claims 2-7.

B. Claims 8-14

Chan does not teach a portable personalization machine as recited in claim 8, where the machine includes communications equipment to permit communications with a controlling authority remote from the personalization machine.

The rejection refers to items 130 and 300 in Chan as a portable personalization machine. In Applicant's invention, the portable personalization machine is separate from the local controller. Chan refers to items 130 and 300 as a system that is composed of a PC 132, 310 and personalization equipment 136, 330 (see, for example, column 6, lines 57-62). The system 130, 300 is not equivalent to a portable personalization machine. Further, the personalization equipment 136, 330 of Chan does not include communications equipment to permit communications with a controlling authority remote from the personalization machine. Instead, the personalization equipment 136, 330 of Chan relies upon the PC 132, 310 for communications with the card issuer 110.

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In addition, Chan does not teach a portable personalization machine as recited in claim 8, where the portable personalization machine includes a control unit and an interface to permit connection to a local controller. The rejection suggests that a CPU of a PC is both a control unit and a local controller, and that the HSM 134 constitutes an interface to permit connection to a local controller. However, Chan does not disclose that the personalization equipment 136, 330 includes both a control unit and an interface to permit connection to a local controller.

Applicant notes that the Examiner has referred to a keyboard and other data input devices as an input, and a card printer as an output. Applicant traverses. Claim 8 recites an input for inputting an identity document and an output for outputting an identity document. The input and output in claim 8 are not referring to data input devices, but rather an input and an output for the identity documents.

For at least these reasons, claim 8 is patentable over Chan. Claims 9-14 depend from claim 8 and are patentable for that reason alone and need not be separately distinguished at this time. By not separately addressing claims 9-14, Applicant does not concede the propriety of the rejections thereto and reserves the right to submit arguments at a later date specifically addressing the merits of the rejections to claims 9-14.

C. Claims 15-21

Chan and Bade do not teach a method of controlling a portable personalization machine for remotely personalizing and issuing identity documents as recited in claim 15, where an enable request is sent from the personalization machine to a controlling authority located remote from the personalization machine.

In Chan, the system 130, 300 receives commands and data from the card issuer 110. However, there is no disclosure that indicates that the system 130, 300 or the personalization equipment itself 136, 330 in Chan sends an enable request to the card issuer 110 which the Examiner has characterized as the controlling authority.

Bade is relied upon to teach providing access to mobile devices based on positional data. However, Bade does not teach sending an enable request from a personalization machine to a controlling authority located remote from the personalization machine.

For at least these reasons, claim 15 is patentable over Chan and Bade. Claims 16-21 depend from claim 15 and are patentable for that reason alone and need not be separately

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distinguished at this time. By not separately addressing claims 16-21, Applicant does not concede the propriety of the rejections thereto and reserves the right to submit arguments at a later date specifically addressing the merits of the rejections to claims 16-21.

Tushie does not remedy the deficiencies of Chan or Bade.

III. Conclusion

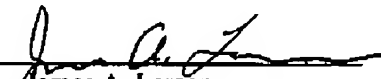
In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would advance prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (612) 455-3805.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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